

As I am now putting out my yearly accounts, I must particularly ask my customers to settle the same by the 1st of February. I am in urgent need of the money to honour my own liabilities. The time is come when all accounts should be settled.

Yours Respectfully,  
JOSEPH HEARD.

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**The Fenelon Falls Gazette.**  
Friday, February 7th, 1890.

**Amending the Franchise Act.**

We clip the following from the Ottawa correspondence in last Monday's *Globe* :—

"Mr. Barron, of Victoria, will continue the campaign against the Franchise Act by introducing an amendment which will result in compelling every one added to the list by declaration to have filed for him a distinct and separate declaration. This will put an end to the common and vicious practice of making out a general declaration setting forth the fitness of any number of persons to a place on the list, attaching a schedule of names secured here, there and everywhere, and then getting some body with an elastic conscience to swear to them in an omnibus kind of way. Such a system could not but be productive of many mistakes, to use a mild word. In Mr. Barron's own constituency he found instances where men had sworn out declarations proclaiming the right of certain persons, with whom they were not even acquainted, to a place on the list, and in some of these cases evidence was had to show that the aspirant voters were not even of age—the primary requisite for a vote. So loose are the conditions in this wholesale schedule style of declaring on voters that if the declarant were to swear falsely he could not be convicted of perjury. A sufficient defence would lie in the plea that other names might have been put on the schedule since the declaration was made. And the moment that conviction for perjury does not stand behind an oath, the oath becomes worthless. Mr. Barron's bill will shut the door against all chance for mistake in this way by making it necessary that a specific special declaration accompany each candidate for the position of elector."

**The Scott Act Fund.**

During the late session of the county council a by-law to dispose of the surplus of the Scott Act fund received two readings and will be read a third time at the meeting in June. The Act provided that all money collected as fines should be paid into the hands of the county treasurer, but did not say what was to be done with it; and, therefore, it appears to be left to the council of every county in which the Act was in force to dispose of the surplus on hand when it was repealed. The surplus in this county is about \$5,000, and the just and reasonable proposal made, and likely to be acted upon, is, that the money be returned to the different municipalities in the proportion in which they contributed to the fund. The total amount collected in fines was \$12,000, half of which came from Lindsay, and she, consequently, would take half the surplus. Fenelon Falls contributed \$1,600, and the amount returned to her would be about \$666, a very acceptable sum in these hard times. Before the Scott Act was passed this municipality derived \$480 annually from licenses, amounting in the three years to \$1,440, which had to be made up by raising the assessment on everything but hotels, which, in consequence of the decrease of their renting value during the life of the Act, were assessed lower than formerly, thus entailing further loss. As the money left after paying for the en-

forcement of the Act did not cost the county an effort or a cent to collect, it is but fair that it should be returned to the municipalities from which it was derived; and we are glad to learn that the reeves and deputy reeves of the townships in which no fines were levied are so impressed by the fairness of the proposal that they make no claim—or, at least, a very feeble one—to any portion of the fund.

**Village Council.**

Fenelon Falls, Feb. 3rd, 1890. The council met pursuant to adjournment. Present, J. Austin, Esq., reeve, and councillors Ellis, McKeown and Nevison.

Mr. Joseph McFarland, after taking the necessary declaration, took his seat at the table.

The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed.

Moved by Mr. Nevison, seconded by Mr. McFarland, That By-law No. —, a by-law to appoint an assessor for the current year, be now introduced and read a first time.—Carried.

By-law read a second time in committee of the whole, Mr. Nevison in the chair.

Moved by Mr. Austin, seconded by Mr. Ellis, That John S. Campbell be appointed assessor for the current year.—Carried.

By-law read a third time and passed. Mr. Campbell accepted the appointment at a salary of \$30.

Moved by Mr. McKeown, seconded by Mr. McFarland, That Hudspeth & Jackson's account of \$145, for conducting the suit against Messrs. Fell, Mitchell and Cunningham, be paid, and that the reeve give his order for the same.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mr. McKeown, That the following accounts be paid and the reeve give his orders for the same: John Quibell, for carting etc., \$5.15; P. Kelly, sanitary inspector \$10; Robt. Jackett, work on streets to date, \$5.95; J. Twomey, bed and meals for tramp, 75c.; H. Austin, goods for Lebrèque, 50c.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mr. McFarland, That the reeve and treasurer be authorized to renew Bank of Montreal note, \$1,200, due 15th inst., for a term not exceeding four months, and Dominion Bank note, \$400, for a term not exceeding three months from date of maturity.—Carried.

Mr. McFarland gives notice that at the next meeting of the council he will introduce a by-law to appoint a board of health and a medical health officer for the current year.

The council then adjourned, to meet on the first Monday in February, 1890.

**Somerville Council.**

The council elected to serve for the present year in the township of Somerville met this 20th day of January at Hodgson's house, Rettie's Station, pursuant to statute.

The members elect present were: John Fell, Esq., reeve, and Messrs. H. F. Perdue, George Rumney and Alex. Morrison, councillors. Absent, Mr. Jas. Wilson, councillor.

The qualification and declaration of office were duly made, and those present took their seats and went into council, with the reeve in the chair.

The minutes of last meeting of council of past year were read and approved and signed by the reeve.

Mr. James Wilson entered, made the required qualification and declaration of office and took his seat in council.

Moved by Mr. Perdue, seconded by Mr. Rumney, That the statute labour charged on collector's roll against the undermentioned persons be allowed to be done in the year 1890: John Fell, seven days work, H. Doughty three days and Alexander Rettie, Sr., two days.—Carried.

The reeve nominated Mr. Samuel Suddaby, as auditor.

Moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Perdue, That Mr. Robert Oswald be appointed auditor on behalf of the council.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Rumney, seconded by Mr. Wilson, That Mr. H. Doughty be appointed assessor for the year 1890, at a salary of \$40.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Perdue, seconded by Mr. Wilson, That By-law No. —, a by-law to appoint auditors to audit corporation accounts of the treasurer for the year 1889, be now read and passed.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Perdue, seconded by Mr. Wilson, That By-law No. —, a by-law to appoint a board of health for the year 1890, be now read and passed.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Rumney, seconded by Mr. Morrison, That By-law No. —, a by-law to appoint a board of health for the year 1890, be now read and passed.—Carried.

by-law for preserving or disposing of timber, stone, sand and gravel on the government and authorized road allowance, in the township of Somerville, be now read and passed.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Morrison, seconded by Mr. Wilson, That the following acc'ts against the municipality be paid:—J. J. Broad, M. D., services in connection with medical attendance on A. Badgerow and Mrs. Sheldon, \$8; Wm. S. Dowson, returning officer's fees, \$6; F. Train, do., \$3; Samuel Suddaby, do., \$3; use of Orange hall, Kinmount, \$2; do., Burnt River, \$3; H. Doughty, Coboconk, \$2.—Carried.

Moved by Mr. Rumney, seconded by Mr. Perdue, That the council do now adjourn, to meet on the 15th day of February.—Carried.

**Coboconk.**

*Correspondence of the Gazette.*

It seems a long while since you have had any news from this flourishing little "Burgh," and to me at least it does not seem quite the thing. I have been on the point of writing, several times, but my excessive modesty prevented me. The idea of anything I might write appearing on the same page with such choice specimens of Christian charity and scholarship was quite overpowering. The erudition, the sequence of reasoning and the diotatorial style of argument displayed were more than enough to deter one not accustomed to public writing. I suppose I am a little shallow; but there are times when I myself do a little thinking on my own account. I suppose it is wrong, but the fact is, Mr. Editor, I can't help it. Well, my thoughts run this way: If a particular mode of baptism is essential to gain an entrance within the "pearly gates," one would think that an allwise and omnipotent Creator would have stated it so plainly that the many as well as the few would so understand it. But I beg your pardon; it was news I started out to write; so here goes, and, I say, don't let any of them open out their heavy guns on me, for I should feel awfully cut up, you know, I should really.

We are organizing a company to build a first class town hall. The plans and specifications are out and tenders invited. It is to be a two-story building. The upper story to be a lodge room with all modern conveniences for preparing candidates, &c. &c.

The Canadian Order of Oddfellows has a prosperous lodge of over 30 members here, and scarcely a week passes without someone seeking to be initiated.

The Royal Templars of Temperance number about 50 and are flourishing as the "green bay tree."

There is a great deal of sickness here at present. La Grippe has arrived and almost every house has made his acquaintance. Mr. Nicholas Bream is the only one that has died, and he was not thoroughly over the typhoid fever before he was attacked with pneumonia and La Grippe and he was called away. Dr. Broad is busy night and day, and one day last week sent 250 powders to a Longford lumber camp.

Some of the boys thought to have a little fun here at the expense of a "showman," but it is likely to cost them pretty dear, as Colonel Deacon has been notified and he does not sympathize much with that particular kind of fun.

Do you think that theological controversy can be affecting the weather? **QUIZ.**

**Personals.**

Mr. James J. Jackson returned from Neepawa yesterday. We hear that he intends to go to Toronto after a brief stay at the Falls.

The Salvation Army here will soon sustain a heavy loss, as Mr. Richard Teague, who so artistically and effectively chastises the big drum, is selling his household effects with the intention of migrating to the States.

Mr. John W. Kennedy, of Winnipeg, has been at the Falls since Monday last. He is now manager of a prosperous Insurance Co., and came to Ontario chiefly to attend a convention of Insurance men in Toronto next week.

The many friends of Mr. Samuel Swanton, who was dangerously ill a short time ago, will be glad to learn that he has sufficiently recovered to be able to attend to business, and will no doubt soon be restored to his usual state of robust health.

Mr. Robert Chambers, proprietor of the Lindsay Marble Works, was at the Falls yesterday on business, and of course called in to see how we were getting along. Seventeen years ago Mr. Chambers was a printer, and while employed in the *Gazette* office, inflicted a comminuted compound fracture on one of the pillars of our big press. Troubled by remorse of conscience, he gave up printing and went to marble cutting, and for some time past has been doing an excellent business on his own account, having lived down or bought out all competitors.